

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 09663 291040Z

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 521

S E C R E T CAIRO 9663

EXDIS

DEPT PASS SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS/ PFOR EG IS

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN COMPLAINT RE FURTHER ISRAELI
ACTIVITIES IN SINAI

REF: CAIRO 8474, 9296

1. STATING HE WAS CALLING ON FAHMY'S INSTRUCTIONS, SIRRI
TELEPHONED ME YESTERDAY, NOVEMBER 28, TO REGISTER A NEW COMPLAINT
AGAINST ALLEGED ISRAELI ACTIVITIES IN THE SINAI. HE RECALLED THE
TWO PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS WHICH HAD BEEN CONVEYED
TO ME BY SAMIH ANWAR AND BY FAHMY PERSONALLY (REFTELS).
GOE HAS NOW DISCOVERED NEW EVIDENCE OF SUCH ACTIVITY.

2. SPECIFICALLY, THE ISRAELIS ARE REPORTEDLY BUILDING A
"TOURIST CITY" ON THE MAIN ROAD BETWEEN EILAT AND SHARM ASH-SHAIKH
NEAR A PLACE CALLED BIR TA'IBAH (I ASSUME THIS IS THE BIR TA'BAH
CITED ON MAPS). A NUMBER OF YOUNG ISRAELIS HAVE SETTLED THERE
AND HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE NECESSARY FACILITIES TO CONSTRUCT
A HOTEL, RESTAURANT AND AN AUTOMOBILE REPAIR GARAGE. THEY
HAVE COME WITH A GENERATOR, TRACTORS, BULLDOZERS AND OTHER
CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT.

3. SIRRI STATED THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS WERE NOT ONLY TO INFORM
US, BUT TO INQUIRE WHAT USG REACTIONS ARE TO THIS TYPE OF ISRAELI
ACTIVITY WHICH SUGGESTS AN INTENTION TO REMAIN IN THE SINAI. HE

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POINTEDLY NOTED THAT NO REPLY HAS YET BEEN RECEIVED TO THE

TWO EARLIER DEMARCHES MADE TO US ON SIMILAR ACTIVITIES.
GOE IS CONCERNED ABOUT USG SILENCE ON THIS MATTER AND
IS ANXIOUS TO HAVE SOME INDICATION OF USG POSITION ON SUCH
ACTIVITIES IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.

4. I TOLD SIRRI I WOULD REPORT HIS DEMARCHE. I RECALLED
THAT AS A GENERAL MATTER HAVING TO DO WITH ISRAELI ACTIVITIES IN
OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES, USG HAS PREVIOUSLY INDICATED THAT
IT DOES NOT ACCEPT ANY UNILATERAL ACTIONS WHICH APPEAR TO BE
DESIGNED TO CHANGE THE STATUS OF SUCH AREAS.
EILTS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECRETARY.

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